

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and thus, is obligated by law to serve the public interest. When large companies dictate what is "news" rather than nonpartisan reporting of it, controlling the taxpayers' airwaves, we get only what's good for the bottom line and not what we need for our democracy. Instead of getting the claptrap produced at "News Central" far away, we need to see real people from our own communities and more impartial, substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show exactly why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard and actively seek opinions from the American Public who are loaning these airwaves to these companies. Thank you.